IBRARY

PETERSFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year

1947.

Including the Report of the

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

PETERSFIELD:
THWAITES & WATTS, LAVANT STREET.
1948.

PETERSFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Town Hall,
Petersfield.

November, 1948.

To the Chairman and Members
of the Petersfield Urban District Council.

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1947 on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Urban District of Petersfield.

The outstanding event of Public Health interest was the widespread epidemic of infantile paralysis. But, fortunately, only one case occurred in this district ; and the patient made a complete recovery.

No case of diphtheria was notified during the year : this fact is attributed to the creditably high percentage of children immunised during the past few years. At the end of 1947 this figure was 85½%.

The National Health Service Act is due to come into operation on the 5th July, 1948. Under this Act, the Hampshire County Council becomes the Local Health Authority responsible for Vaccination, Immunisation, Domestic and Home Help, Home Nursing, Health Visiting, Midwifery, Ambulance Services, Prevention of Illness, Care and After-care and for the supervision and treatment of patients suffering from mental disease or defect.

The post of Medical Officer of Health was held by Lt.-Col. T. D. Murison since 1941 ; and, in September, 1947, I took over the duties of this appointment.

The general arrangement of this Report has been revised in order to make it of more practical value as a guide to the health services available for the district.

My thanks are due to Mr. Longbottom and to Mr. Bradley for their valuable co-operation and assistance in compiling this Report.

S. Chalmers Parry.

Medical Officer of Health,
Petersfield Urban District Council.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area	2,931 acres.
Rateable Value	£60,806.
Sum represented by a penny rate	£240.
Population	6,772.
Number of inhabited houses ...	1,863.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births.		Male.	Female.	Total.
Live Births (Legitimate)	...	45	67	112
(Illegitimate)	...	5	2	7
				119

Live Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated population was 17·6 compared with 20·5 for the whole of England and Wales.

		Male.	Female.	Total.
Still Births (Legitimate)	...	2	—	2
(Illegitimate	...	—	—	—
				2

Still Birth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births was 16·5 compared with 24·0 for the whole of England and Wales.

Deaths.		Male.	Female.	Total.
From all causes	... ...	41	55	96

Death rate per 1,000 estimated average population was 14·1 compared with 12·0 for the whole of England and Wales.

Maternal Mortality.

From Puerperal Sepsis	Nil
From other Puerperal Causes	Nil
Maternal mortality rate 1,000 total (live and still) births	Nil

Infant Mortality. (Deaths under one year).

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	2	2	4
Illegitimate	1	—	1
			5

The death rate of infants under one year of age was 42·0 per 1,000 live births compared with 41·0 for the whole of England and Wales.

Deaths from—	Total.
Cancer (all ages)	19
Measles (all ages)	Nil
Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Diarrhœa (under two years)	Nil

Causes of Death.

		Male.	Female.
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever ...	—	—
2.	Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—
3.	Scarlet Fever	—	—
4.	Whooping Cough	—	—
5.	Diphtheria	—	—
6.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	2	—
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis	—	—
8.	Syphilis	—	—
9.	Influenza	—	—
10.	Measles	—	—
11.	Acute Polio-myelitis and Polio-encephalitis	—	—
12.	Acute Infective Encephalitis	—	—
13.	Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus ...	1	—
14.	Cancer of Stomach	—	4
15.	Cancer of Breast	—	6
16.	Cancer of all other sites	3	5
17.	Diabetes	—	—
18.	Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	6	6
19.	Heart Disease	15	18
20.	Other Diseases of Circulatory System ...	2	1
21.	Bronchitis	1	2
22.	Pneumonia	—	5
23.	Other Respiratory Disease	—	—

Causes of Death (*continued*).

		MALE.	FEMALE.
24.	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ...	1	—
25.	Diarrhœa (under two years)	—	—
26.	Appendicitis	1	—
27.	Other Digestive Diseases	2	1
28.	Nephritis	1	1
29.	Puerperal or Post-abortive Sepsis ..	—	—
30.	Other Maternal Causes	—	—
31.	Premature Birth	1	—
32.	Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury and Infantile Disease	—	1
33.	Suicide	—	—
34.	Road Traffic Accidents	1	—
35.	Other Violent Causes	1	1
36.	All Other Causes	3	4
		41	55

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Public Health Officers of the Authority :—

Medical Officer of Health :—

T. D. Murison, D.P.H., Lt.-Col. I.M.S. [Retired] (to August).

S. Chalmers Parry, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (from September).

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector :—

H. Longbottom, M.I.MUN.E., F.R.I.C.S.

Additional Sanitary Inspector and Meat and Foods Inspector :—

F. G. Bradley, M.S.I.A., A.R.SAN.I.

Ambulance Facilities.

For Cases of Infectious Diseases.

During the year, an ambulance was available both at the Petersfield Isolation Hospital (Telephone 7) and at Alton Isolation Hospital (Telephone 3161).

After the 5th July, 1948, an ambulance will be available at the N.F.S. Station, Petersfield (Telephone 781).

For Cases of Ordinary Sickness.

For the transport of non-infectious and accident cases, a British Red Cross Ambulance is available at the N.F.S. Station, Heath Road, Petersfield (Telephone 781). After the 5th July, 1948, the British Red Cross Society will be acting as a County Council Agent. Arrangements are made for Mutual Aid between neighbouring stations.

Laboratory Facilities.

Until the 1st of May, 1947, both chemical and bacteriological examinations were carried out at the County Public Health Laboratory, The Castle, Winchester.

Since that date, the bacteriological work has been performed by the new Public Health Laboratory at the Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester, (Telephone 3807) and specimens of clinical materials (sputum, swabs, etc.) and samples of water, milk and foodstuffs are sent for bacteriological examination to Dr. R. Mackenzie, Director of the Public Health Laboratory.

The County Laboratory still carries out the chemical analyses of water, sewage, milk and other samples submitted for examination.

Nursing in the Home.

The District Nurse (Miss Bloomfield) who also acts as midwife, practises in the area.

The Health Visitor (Mrs. Foster) carries out the Public Health work in the district under the direction of the County Medical Officer.

Day Nursery.

The Day Nursery, under a Voluntary Nursery Committee, is available for the use of mothers who are out at work and unable to look after their children during the day.

It is situated in Ramshill and has accommodation for twenty-five children between the ages of two and five years.

Clinics.

Child Welfare Centre.

A Local Committee of voluntary workers has been responsible for the work of the Child Welfare Centre, Ramshill, which meets every Wednesday afternoon.

Thanks are due to the Committee and to Dr. Campbell Cooke, who have made the centre so popular.

Ante-natal Clinic.

An Ante-natal Clinic is held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at Ramshill.

Tuberculosis Clinic.

A Tuberculosis Clinic is held every Thursday from 9.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. at the County Council Health Centre, Park Way, Havant.

Dr. Butterworth, the Assistant Tuberculosis Officer, is in attendance.

Venereal Diseases.

Treatment is available at St. Mary's Hospital, Portsmouth.

MALES—Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

FEMALES—Mondays 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesdays 2 p.m. Fridays 10 a.m.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES.

Verminous Cleansing Clinic.

A Cleansing Centre is now available at the Public Assistance Institution, Petersfield.

The Clinic is held on Fridays at 9.30 a.m.

Orthopædic Clinic.

A Remedial Clinic is held at the Child Welfare Rooms, Ramshill, on Saturday mornings.

Orthopædic cases, requiring remedial treatment, are referred to this clinic.

Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics.

Cases, referred to the specialist, are examined at the Portsmouth Eye and Ear Hospital and treatment is carried out either at that Hospital or, by Dr. Jeffries, at Petersfield Hospital.

Dental Clinic.

Dental Clinics, when required, are held at the Schools and at the Child Welfare Rooms, Ramshill.

Ophthalmic Clinic.

This is held at the Child Welfare Rooms, Ramshill, on the 1st Monday of the month at 9.30 a.m. and 1.30 p.m. for ophthalmic cases by appointment.

Orthoptic Clinics.

This is held at 8, High Street, Alton, on Tuesdays at 1.30 p.m. for cases referred by the Ophthalmic Surgeon.

Child Guidance Clinic.

This is held at the Men's Club, on Mondays at 9.30 a.m. (by appointment only).

Speech Therapy Clinic.

Cases attend at the County Council Health Centre, Park Way, Havant, on Wednesdays at 9.30 a.m. and 1.30 p.m. by appointment.

HOSPITALS.

General.

The Petersfield Hospital, which is a voluntary hospital that has been under the control of a local Committee, has thirty-two beds available for medical, surgical and maternity cases.

Infectious Diseases.

The Petersfield Isolation Hospital, which has been under the control of the Petersfield Isolation Joint Hospital Board, composed of representatives of the Urban and Rural District Councils, can accommodate forty-eight patients.

Dr. Cross and Dr. Knowles are in medical charge of the patients admitted to the Isolation Hospital.

Sanatoria.

Sanatoria for patients, who are suffering from Tuberculosis, are provided by the County Council at Bishopstoke and Chandler's Ford.

Small Pox.

The County Council provides arrangements for removal of cases to a hospital at Winchester.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

The chief source of supply is from two deep boreholes situated at Sheet. This is augmented by spring water from Oakshott.

All the water is chlorinated and samples are regularly tested.

Drainage and Sewerage.

With the exception ot the village of Stroud and a few houses at Sheet, the whole of the district is served by the public sewer.

Closet Accommodation.

With few exceptions, the pails of the houses that are not connected to the public sewer are emptied twice a week by the Hants Cleansing Service.

Public Cleansing.

The Council is responsible for the cleansing of all the roads in the district.

Refuse collection is carried out weekly at Petersfield and Sheet, and fortnightly at Stroud.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The report of the Sanitary Inspector, dealing with the work carried out during the year, is attached.

Shops.

During the year, no statutory action was taken under the Shops Act, 1934.

Camping Sites.

In the district there are four camping sites licensed by the Council.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

No case of infestation by bed bugs was reported.

HOUSING.

Provision of New Houses.

The fact that only twenty Council houses were completed in 1947 was mainly due to shortage of labour and severe weather conditions in the early part of the year.

In addition, twelve houses were built by private enterprise.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

Ninety per cent of all the milk sold in the district is now pasteurized. All the milk supplied to schools is pasteurized.

Meat and other Foods.

The government slaughter-house is still in operation at Grange Farm. Centralised slaughtering ensures that all meat is inspected. It is hoped that this practice will be continued. Details of these inspections will be found in the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

Adulterations.

I am indebted to Mr. C. O. Perry, Chief Inspector under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, for the information that forty samples were taken in the district during the year.

It is satisfactory to report that twenty samples of milk showed no evidence of adulteration, and that all the remaining samples also attained the required standard.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

It is gratifying to note that no case of Diphtheria was notified during this period.

During the year, a total of 62 immunisations against Diphtheria was carried out (i.e., 59 courses of Primary immunisation in children under 5 years of age and 3 "Booster" or Re-inforcing immunisations in school children between the ages of 5 and 15 years).

At the end of the year, the percentage of immunised children under the age of 15 was 85½ compared with a corresponding figure of 60 for the country as a whole in 1946.

This high figure is most encouraging ; and a great tribute should be paid to the parents who have wisely given consent for their children to be immunised and have so helped to protect the community against Diphtheria.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Particulars of cases of Infectious Diseases, which occurred during the course of the year, are shown in the following table :—

DISEASES	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED	CASES ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL	TOTAL DEATHS
Scarlet Fever	15	10	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—
Pneumonia	1	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (includin Pgaratyphoid)	—	—	—
Acute Polio-myelitis and Polio-encephalitis ...	1	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	—
Measles	72	—	—
Whooping Cough	14	—	—
TOTALS	104	10	—

An analysis of the total notified cases according to age groups is given below :—

	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Whooping Cough	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Polio-myelitis
Under 1 year	—	3	1	—	—	—
1 – 2 years	—	7	1	—	—	—
2 – 3 ,, ...	—	9	1	—	—	—
3 – 4 ,, ...	—	7	2	—	—	—
4 – 5 ,, ...	—	13	3	—	—	—
5 – 10 ,, ...	3	26	3	—	—	—
10 – 15 ,, ...	8	3	3	—	1	1
15 – 20 ,, ...	3	2	—	—	—	—
20 – 35 ,, ...	1	2	—	—	—	—
35 – 45 ,, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 – 65 ,, ...	—	—	—	1	—	—
Over 65 ,, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

Only certain forms of Pneumonia are notifiable.
No deaths from Infectious Diseases occurred.

Infantile Paralysis.

The greatest epidemic of Acute Polio-myelitis that has so far been recorded in England, spread over the whole country from July to December.

It is satisfactory to report that only one case occurred in Petersfield during this period. The patient, a little girl aged ten years, was taken ill in the middle of August and was admitted to the Lord Mayor Treloar Hospital, Alton, where she made a complete recovery.

Scabies.

The treatment of Scabies by Benzyl Benzoate Emulsion is still available at the Isolation Hospital where cases from both the Rural and Urban Districts can attend as out-patients by special appointment. Fifteen cases were treated during the year.

Scabies and Pediculosis should be regarded as family infestations; and all members of the same family should present themselves for treatment simultaneously—whether or not they show evidence of Scabies at the time. Otherwise the parasite may thrive in one member and re-infect the others.

It is satisfactory to note that there has been a decline in the incidence of Scabies from forty-five cases in 1946 to fifteen cases in 1947.

Pediculosis.

When a school child is found to be verminous, all the other members of the family should wisely offer themselves for examination. This practice ensures that any undetected case in the same family will receive immediate treatment and that there will be no further spread of infection to others.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Period.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 - 5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5 - 15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 - 25	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 - 35	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 - 45	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 - 55	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 - 65	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
65 and over ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	2	4	1	—	2	—	—	—

On 31st December, 1947, the total number of cases on the Register was forty-one. No action was taken in 1947 under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis Regulations) 1925 (relating to persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis employed in the milk trade), or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis).

Report on the work of the Sanitary Inspector for the year ended 31st December, 1947.

Water Supply.

An additional Filter for the extraction of iron from the borehole water has been constructed. This Filter is giving satisfactory results.

Thirty-three samples of water from the public supply were analysed during the year and all were satisfactory.

A constant supply of water is given to 99% of the inhabited premises in the Urban District and bulk supplies are given to the Petersfield Rural District Council.

Drainage and Sewerage.

No major works have been carried out during the year under review.

Shops.

All shops are inspected for compliance with the Shops' Acts—especially where changes are made. No cases of infringement were found.

Camping Sites.

It was necessary to take court proceedings in one case, to remove two tents from an unlicensed site. The proceedings were successful and the tents removed. Regular inspections were made of all licensed sites.

Rodent Control.

This work was carried out during the year and no major infestations were found. The Council's own properties are now very slightly infested.

VISITS AND INSPECTIONS—	
Survey	79
Extermination	101
TOTAL	180
COMPLAINTS RE INFESTATIONS— ...	38
Premises treated by the Council—	
Council Property—Gassing ...	—
Poison ...	5
Private Property—Gassing ...	—
Poison ...	17
Premises treated by owners under supervision—Poison ...	8
Premises treated by Ministry of Food	1
TOTAL	31

General Inspection of the Area.

Total number of visits made (including food inspections)	3251
Number of complaints received and dealt with ...	65

Visits and Inspections.

Bakehouses	10
Water Supply (sampling of water)	59
Fried Fish Shops	12
Shops (under Shops' Acts)	60
Camping Sites	23
Common Lodging House	6
Sewage Works (for Rodent Control) ...	12
Refuse Tips re Fly Infestation	20
Re Disinfection of Rooms	14
Ice Cream Premises	20
Building Licences	64
New Buildings	75
Infectious Diseases	22

Summary of work carried out under Public Health and Housing Act.

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year—

(1)	(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	105
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	164
(2)	(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head [1] above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	105
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	164
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be, in all respect, reasonably fit for human habitation	48

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notices—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	27

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year—

(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936—	
	(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
	(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices—	
	(a) By owners	Nil
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

4. Overcrowding.

No serious cases of overcrowding were found during the year.

Work on housing repairs continues to be difficult owing to shortage of materials and labour. A list of the major repairs carried out under notice is as follows—

Roofs repaired	14
Gutter repaired or renewed ...	8
Walls repaired or renewed ...	4
Drains tested	5
New drains—water tested ...	12
Choked drains cleared ...	8
W.C.s repaired	12
New W.C. pans provided ...	6
Dampness remedied	21
Windows repaired or renewed ...	8
Ceilings repaired	14
Floors repaired or renewed ...	5
Doors repaired or renewed ...	4
Ranges repaired or renewed ...	10
Accumulations cleared ...	1
Cesspools emptied	7

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(a) Milk Supply.

Two dairymen have now installed pasteurizing plants of the Holder type; these plants, together with the existing plants at the South Eastern Farmer's Dairy, are sampled every fortnight; the results are generally satisfactory.

Conditions at the cowsheds have improved, and four unsatisfactory premises are not now used for the production of milk.

Number of—

Retail Purveyors	4
Wholesale Dealers	1
Cowkeepers	14
Licensed producers of tuberculin tested milk	1
Licensed producers of accredited milk	7
Licensed producers of pasteurized milk	3
Licensed retailers of pasteurized milk ...	3
Inspections made of dairies and cowsheds	110
Samples of pasteurized milk taken for analysis (phosphatase and methylene blue tests)	18
Samples which complied with the regulations	15
Samples, heat treated milk ...	45
Samples which complied with regulations	43
Visits re sampling	58

(b) Meat and Other Foods.

Number of inspections made of Foods Shops, Stalls, Slaughter-houses, etc. 1546

The Government slaughter-house is still in operation at The Grange. Slaughtering takes place not only during normal hours on weekdays, but also often late in the evenings and on many Sundays—thus entailing a great deal of time on meat inspection.

One-hundred per cent inspection of all carcases and offal is carried out. The following tables will show that this is very necessary.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed	1353	802	1061	1816	148
Number inspected	1353	802	1061	1816	148
All diseases except Tuberculosis—					
Whole carcases condemned ...	—	9	3	—	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	388	248	—	91	4
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	28·67	32·02	0·27	5·00	3·37
Tuberculosis only—					
Whole carcases condemned ...	7	24	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	272	226	—	—	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	20·62	31·04	—	—	1·35

Total weight of meat condemned ... 21 tons, 17 cwt.

Details of Condemnation.

27 Carcases Beef (20 cows) Gen. T.B.
4 ,, ,, T.B. with Emaciation (all cows).
6 ,, ,, Johne's Disease with Emaciation (all cows).
1 ,, ,, Extensive Bruising.
1 ,, ,, Dropsy with Emaciation.
1 ,, ,, Jaundice with Emaciation.
11 Fore Quarters.
1 Hind Quarter.

15 Briskets.
7 Other Parts.
208 Heads and Tongues.
539 Livers.
388 Sets Lungs.
171 Other Offals.
14 Sheep Plucks.
75 Sheep Livers.
1 Pig Carcase.
3 Pigs Heads.
3 Calf Carcases.

All food shops and food preparing premises are regularly inspected.

The following foodstuffs were voluntarily surrendered and condemned.

88 tins Corned Beef.
22 ,, Cooked Meat.
23 ,, Vegetables.
56 ,, Evaporated Milk.
41 ,, Fish.
113 lbs. Fish.
171 lbs. Flour.
13 tins Jam.
57 Fish Cakes.
224 lbs. Potatoes.
13 Chickens.
35 lbs. Lobsters.
35 lbs. Liver Sausage.
27 jars Pickles.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Part 1 of the Act.

1. **Inspections** for purposes as to health.

PREMISES.	Number on Register.	Inspections.	Number of written Notices.
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	28	20	3
(2) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	50	43	3
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	—	—	—
	78	63	6

Cases in which **Defects** were found.

	FOUND.	REMEDIED.
Want of Cleanliness	3	3
Sanitary Conveniences unsuitable or defective	2	2
Not separate for sexes	1	1
	6	6